AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-10 without prejudice and insert therefore new Claims 11-18. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. (new) A method for the treatment or prevention of a disease associated with deposition of Aβ in the brain comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a growth hormone secretagogue or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a therapeutically effective amount of a p38 kinase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (new) The method of Claim 11 wherein the disease is slected from Alzheimer's disease, age-related cognitive decline, mild cognitive impairment, cerebral amyloid angiopathy, multi-infarct dementia, dementia pugilistica and Down syndrome.

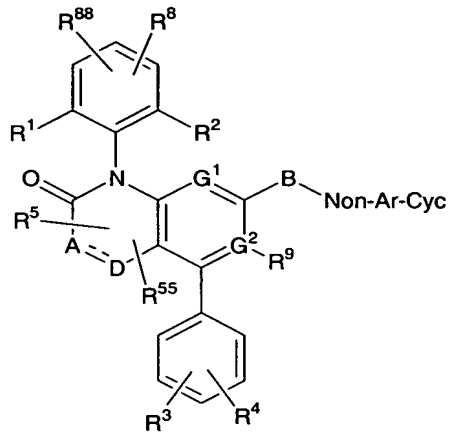
13. (new) The method of Claim 12 wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

14. (new) The method of Claim 12 wherein the disease is mild cognitive impairment.

15. (new) The method of Claim 14 wherein the patient possesses one or more risk factors for developing Alzheimer's disease selected from: a family history of the disease; a genetic predisposition to the disease; elevated serum cholesterol; adult-onset diabetes mellitus; elevated baseline hippocampal volume; elevated cerebrospinal fluid levels of total tau; elevated cerebrospinal fluid levels of phospho-tau; and lowered cerebrospinal fluid levels of Aβ(1-42).

16. (new) The method of Claim 11 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is N-[1(R)-[(1,2-dihydro-1-methanesulfonylspiro[3H-indole-3,4'–piperidin]-1'-yl)carbonyl]-2-(phenylmethyloxy)ethyl]-2-amino-2-methylpropanamide, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

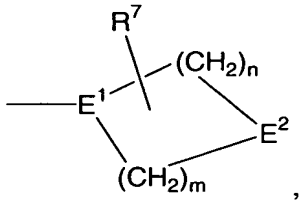
17. (new) The method of Claim 11 wherein the p38 kinase inhibitor is a compound of formula XI:



(XI)

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

Non-Ar-Cyc is



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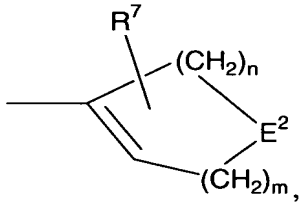

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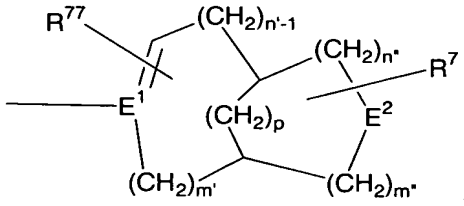
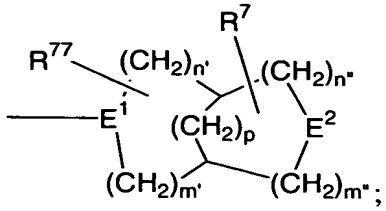


, **or**



A is N, O, NH, CH_2, or CH;

B is $-C_{1-6}$alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–O–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–NH–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–NH–C_{3-7}cycloalkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–N(C_{0-3}alkyl)–C(O)–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–NH–SO_2–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–S–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–SO_2–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–PH–C_{0-3}alkyl–, $-C_{0-3}$alkyl–C(O)–C_{0-3}alkyl, or a direct bond;

D is CH, CH_2, N, or NH; optionally A and D are bridged by -C_{1-4}alkyl- to form a fused bicyclo ring with A and D at the bicyclo cusps;

E^1 is CH, N, or CR^6; or B and E^1 form –CH=C<;

E^2 is CH_2, CHR, C(OH)R NH, NR, O, S, –S(O)–, or $–S(O)_2–$;

G^1 is N, CH, or C(C_{1-3}alkyl);

G^2 is N, CH, or C(C_{1-3}alkyl);

R, R^7 and R^{77} each independently is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl– group, C_{2-6}alkenyl– group, C_{4-6}cycloalkyl-C_{0-6}alkyl– group, N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl)–C_{1-4}alkyl–N(C_{0-4}alkyl)– group, –N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl) group, C_{1-3}alkyl–CO–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, C_{0-6}alkyl–O–C(O)–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, C_{0-6}alkyl–C(O)–O–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl)–(C_{0-4}alkyl)C(O)(C_{0-4}alkyl)– group, phenyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, pyridyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, pyrimidinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, pyrazinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, thiophenyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, pyrazolyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, imidazolyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, triazolyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, azetidinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, pyrrolidinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, isoquinolinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, indanyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, benzothiazolyl–C_{0-4}alkyl– group, any of the groups optionally substituted with 1-6 substituents, each substituent independently being –OH, –N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl), C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxyl, C_{1-6}alkyl–CO–C_{0-4}alkyl–, pyrrolidinyl–C_{0-4}alkyl–, or halogen;

or R^7 together with a bond from an absent ring hydrogen is =O;

n' + n" = n;

m' + m" = m;

n is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

n+m is 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

p is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^6 are each independently halogen, C_{0-4}alkyl, –C(O)-O(C_{0-4}alkyl), or –C(O)-N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl);

R^5 and R^{55} independently is H, CH_3, CH_2CH_3, or absent;

R^{88} and R^8 each is independently –CN, –C_{0-4}alkyl, –C(O)-N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl), –C(O)-O-C_{0-4}alkyl or 1,3-dioxolan-2-yl–C_{0-4}alkyl–;

R^9 is –C_{0-4}alkyl, or absent; and

any alkyl is optionally substituted with 1-6 independent halogen or -OH.

18. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a growth hormone secretagogue or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a p38 kinase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.